Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01977 110842Z

15

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: NPG-DRAFT AGENDA FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING

REFERENCES: A. STATE 77746 B. USNATO 1529

SUMMARY: MISSION AGREESTHAT DRAFT NPG MINISTERIAL AGENDA IS LONG AND THAT WE NEED TO GET IT DOWN TO MANAGEABLE PROPORTIONS. WE AGREE IN GENERAL WITH WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ITEMS ON DRAFT AGENDA, BUT SUGGEST THAT A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY MIGHT BE COVERED UNDER FUTURE WORK PROGRAM, RATHER THAN AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM. US REP WILL DRAW ON WASHINGTON COMMENTS IN REF A WHEN NPG STAFF GROUP DISCUSSES DRAFT AGENDA ON APRIL 11.

END SUMMARY.

1. MISSION APPRECIATES WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON DRAFT NPG
MINISTERIAL AGENDA PROVIDED IN REF A. WE AGREE THAT WE NEED TO
GET PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH ALLIES ON HANDLING OR DELETION OF
SOME ITEMS IN ORDER TO GET AGENDA DOWN TO MANAGELABLE PROPORTIONS. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE SPECIFIC ITEMS
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 01977 110842Z

BELOW, KEYED TO THE AGEND ITELS LISTED IN REF A:

AGENDA ITEM II-FOLLOW-ON USE PROGRAM-PHASE II:

NONE OF THE ALLIES HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE MINISTERSSHOULD BE BRIEFED ON THE PHASE II FINAL REPORT OR THE ACCOMPANYING PERM REPS REPORT, AND WE AGREE THAT BRIEFINGS WOULD TAKE EXCESSIVE TIME.AND SHOULD NOT BE NECESSARY. WE BELIEVE. HOWEVER. THAT MINISTERIALDISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT COULD EXTEND BEYOND 30 MINUTES SINCE IT COULD INVOLVE POTENTIALLY IMPORTANT DOCTRINAL QUESTIONS WHICH SOME OF THE ALLIES MAY WISH TO AIR. WE NOTE ALSO THAT THIS AGENDA ITEM COULD PROVIDE A USEFUL CONTEXT IN WHICH SECDEF MIGHT MAKE COMMENTS ON US VIEWS ON DOCTRINE. AN AREA WHERE THE REPORT TO CONGRESS ON THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES INDICATES THAT IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED. CONCERNING PHASE III. WE AGREE THAT MINISTERIAL DISCSSION OF THIS QUESTION COULD BE BRIEF AND GENERAL. HOWEVER, SINCE AT THIS STAGE IT APPEARS THAT THE PERMREPS REPORT ON FOLLOW-ON USE WILL INCLUDE A SECTION ON PHASE IIII. IT MIGHT TRACK BETTER TO HAVE MINISTERS DISCUSS PHASE III UNDER AGENDA ITEM II, RATHER THAN UNDER FUTURE WORK PROGRAM.

AGENDA ITEM IV-ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY: INITIAL USE-AIR
DEFENSE: WE AGREE THAT, OF THE PROPOSED ITEMS ON THE AGENDA,
THIS ONE WOULD BE THE BEST CANIDATE FOR DELETION. WE WILL SEEK
TO GAIN ALLIES' AGREEMENT TO DO THIS. SOME OF THE ALLIES COULD
BE RELUCTANT TO SIMPLY DISCARD THE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY ALTOGETHER
(AND, IMPLICITLY, THE PREPARATION OF NEW ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES IN
THE FUTURE), AND MAY WISH TO "DEFER" IT TO A LATER NPG MEETING.

AGENDA ITEM V-(PRELIMINARY) OBSERVATIONS ON WINTEX-75: WE AGREE THIS SUBJECT COULD PROVIDE USEFUL BASIS FOR DISCUSSION WHICH, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT NEEDTO BE TO LENGTHY. NPG PERM REPS (VICE SACEUR OR MILITARY COMMITTEE INDICATED IN REF A) WILL PROVIDE A REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT AS A BASIS FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION.

AGENDA ITEM VI-DISCUSSION OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT: WE SEE
THIS ITEM AS PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT ON THE NPG AGENDA. WE
BELIEVE ALLIED MINISTERS WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO HEAR
A BRIEF REPORT BY SECDEF WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A VALUABLE OPPORSECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 01977 110842Z

TUNITY FOR HIM TO EXPAND ON RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT TO CONGRESS.

AGENDA ITEM VII-A PROGRESS REPORT BY THE FULL STUDY PANEL
OF THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY GROUP: WE AGREE ON DESIRABILITY OF US
CIRCULATING A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY. HOWEVER,
BECAUSE OF TIME CONSTRAINTS, AND BECAUSE OF FACT THAT TOWK IN
TECHNOLOGY STUDY IS STILL IN RELATIVELY EARLY STAGE, IT MAY BE
APPROPRIATE TO HAVE SUBJECT INCORPORRATED UNDER FUTURE WORK
PROGRAM INSTEAD OF BEING A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM. THE PROGRESS
REPORT COULD BE INCLUDED AS AN ANNEX TO THE PERM REPS REPORT ON
FUTURE WORK(A PROCEDURE FOLLOWED IN THE PAST WITH PHASE II
PROGRESS REPORTS), WHICH MINISTERS MIGHT SIMPLY NOTE, AS SUG-

GESTED IN REF A, OR DISCUS IF THEY WISH. THERE SHOULD BE CONSIDERABLE MATERIAL FOR MINISTERS TO DISCUSS AT THE FALL NPG MEETING WHEN THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY WILL BE WELL ON THE ROAD TOWARD COMPLETION.

AGENDA ITEM IX-ANY OTHER BUSINESS: WE EXPECT THAT UK, FRG AND POSSIBLY OTHERS WILL WANT TO HEAR SOMETHING FROM THE MNC'S ON SELEVTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING ((SEP). WE DON'T BELIEVE THEY WILL INSIST ON INCLUDING SEP AS SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM. AND MAY BE SATISFIED IF SACEUR AND/OR SACLANT WOULD BE PREPARED TO COMMENT BRIEFLY, AND ORALLY, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM MINISTERS. DISCUSSION OF SEP COULD FIT UNDER AGENDA ITEM II ON FOLLOW-ON USE, OR UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS; WHERE IT MIGHT BE RAISED COULD BE LEFT OPEN. ON QUESTION OF WRITTEN REPORT SUG-GESTED IN REF A, AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, THERE IS NOT MUCH AT THIS STAGE THAT SACEUR AND/OR SACLANT WOULD ADD TO THAT WHICH THEY INCLUDED IN THE WRITTEN REPORT AND STATEMENTS ONSEP THAT THEY CIRCULATED LAST DECEMBER. UNLESS MNC'S INDICATE THAT THEY HAVE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL TO ADD IN A NEW WRITTENREPORT, WE BE-LIEVE IT WOULD SUFFICE TO LET THE DECEMBER REPORT AND STATEMENTS STAND AS BACKGROUND, TO BE AMPLIFIED AS APPROPRIATE BY REMARKS THAT SACEUR AND/OR SACLANT COULD MAKE AT THE JUNE MINISTERIAL.

2. NPG STAFF GROUP WILL DISCUSS DRAFT MINISTERIAL AGENDA AT NEXT MEETING ON APRIL 11, AND US REP WILL DRAW ON WASHINGTON COMMENTS IN REF A IN DISCUSSION. IN LIGHT OF MISSION NIEWS ABOVE, WE WILL NOT RAISE QUESTION OF INCLUDING A PROGRESS REPORT ON THETECHNOLOGY STUDY AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM UNTIL SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 01977 110842Z

WE RECEIVE FURTHER WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. BRUCE

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